

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

What is claimed is:

1. (Withdrawn) A portable information terminal which comprises:
 - a camera unit;
 - a shutter button for said camera;
 - a viewfinder of which optical axis is parallel to that of lens of said camera; and
 - a display unit for displaying information from transmission channels or image taken in by said camera,wherein said lens and said viewfinder on the front side of said portable information terminal are directed to a subject and said display unit is placed on the rear side.
2. (Withdrawn) The portable information terminal according to claim 1, wherein:
 - said viewfinder is retractable; and
 - said viewfinder is positioned at an upper corner of the information terminal, while said shutter button is positioned at the another upper corner.
3. (Currently Amended) A portable information terminal which comprises:
 - a camera unit;
 - a shutter button for said camera;
 - a viewfinder of which optical axis is parallel to that of lens of said camera;

a housing for said camera and said viewfinder; and

a pair of flat cases which pivots through a hinge,

wherein:

at least one of said cases is equipped with a display unit for displaying information from transmission channels or image taken in by said camera; and

said hinge is equipped with said housing, and

wherein said viewfinder is positioned at an upper corner of the information terminal, while said shutter button is positioned at the another upper corner.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The portable information terminal according to claim 3, wherein said viewfinder is retractable into said housing.

6. (Currently Amended) The portable information terminal which comprises:

a camera unit;

a shutter button for said camera; and

a terminal operation button for operating said portable information terminal,

wherein said terminal operation button acts as said shutter button, and

wherein said portable information terminal further comprises:

a viewfinder of which optical axis is parallel to that of lens of said camera;

a housing for said camera and said viewfinder; and

a pair of flat cases which pivots through a hinge,

wherein:

at least one of said cases is equipped with a display unit for displaying information from transmission channels or image taken in by said camera; and

said hinge is equipped with said housing.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) The portable information terminal according to claim 6, wherein said terminal operation button is a scroll button related to said display unit.

9. (Original) The portable information terminal according to claim 8, said scroll button has a vertically pressing function, and the function is caused to correspond to the function of the operation button for said shutter.

10. (Original) The portable information terminal according to claim 6, wherein said terminal operation button functions as said shutter button, by function mode switching.

11. (Original) The portable information terminal according to claim 10, wherein said terminal operation button and said shutter button are positioned on different surfaces of said portable information terminal.

12. (Currently Amended) The portable information terminal according to ~~claim~~ claim 6, wherein:

said terminal operation button is positioned on a surface equipped with said display unit; and

said shutter button is positioned on another surface perpendicular to said surface having a display unit.

13. (Currently Amended) A portable information terminal which comprises:

a terminal operation button for operating said portable information terminal;

a camera unit;

a shutter button for said camera unit;

a housing for said camera; and

a pair of flat cases which pivots through a hinge,

wherein:

each of said cases is equipped with a display unit for displaying information from transmission channels or image taken in by said camera;

said hinge is equipped with said housing;

an optical axis of lens of said camera is perpendicular to an axis of said hinge;

and said cases units face outside in a folded state; and

wherein:

said terminal operation button is positioned on a surface equipped with one of said display units; and

said shutter button is positioned on another surface perpendicular to said surface on which said terminal operation button is positioned.

14. (Withdrawn) A portable information terminal which comprises:

a camera unit;

a housing for said camera; and

a pair of flat cases which pivots through a hinge,

wherein:

each of said cases is equipped with a display unit for displaying information from transmission channels or image taken in by said camera;

said hinge is equipped with said housing;

an optical axis of lens of said camera is perpendicular to an axis of said hinge; and

said hinge has a structure in which said cases are pivoted by two shafts parallel to the axis of said housing; and

said display units face inside said information terminal body in a folded state and they face outside said information terminal in an unfolded state.

15. (Original) The portable information terminal according to claim 13, wherein one of said display units faces a subject and displays a mirror image of an image as taken in by said camera.

16. (Withdrawn) The portable information terminal according to claim 14, wherein

one of said display units faces a subject and displays a mirror image of an image as taken in by said camera.

17. (Original) A portable information terminal according to claim 13, wherein said display units are positioned such that the cases are opposite to each other when said display units are folded, while they face the same side when said display units are unfolded at 180°.

18. (Withdrawn) A portable information terminal according to claim 14, wherein said display units are positioned such that the cases are opposite to each other when said display units are folded, while they face the same side when said display units are unfolded at 180°.

19. (Withdrawn) The portable information terminal according to claim 14, wherein said housing is rotated by 360° so as to locate said display units inside or outside said information terminal in a folded state, while said housing is rotated so as to locate said display units on the same side in an unfolded state.

20. (Currently Amended) A portable information terminal which comprises: a camera unit having a viewfinder and a shutter button and; two display units, one of which is used for viewing an image taken in by said camera; wherein:

wherein said viewfinder is positioned at an upper corner of the information terminal, while said shutter button is positioned at the another upper corner.

21. (Currently Amended) The portable information terminal according to claim 20, wherein ~~which~~ the other display unit is opposite ~~to~~ to said one of said two display units, and is used to be visually seen ~~recognized~~ from a subject side.

22. (New) An apparatus comprising:

a camera ;

a portable information terminal;

a lens for said camera;

a shutter button for said camera;

a viewfinder for said camera having an optical axis oriented parallel to an optical axis of said lens of said camera; and

a pair of flat cases which pivots through a hinge,
said lens and said viewfinder secured to said hinge and disposed along an axis
of said hinge,

wherein each of said pair of flat cases is equipped with a display unit for
displaying information from at least one of (1) transmission channels and (2) images
captured by said camera.

23. (New) The apparatus according to claim 22, wherein, when said pair of flat cases
are in a closed position, said viewfinder is positioned at an upper corner of the information
terminal, while said shutter button is positioned at the another upper corner.

24. (New) The apparatus according to claim 22, wherein said viewfinder is
retractable into a housing of said hinge.

25. (New) An apparatus comprising:

a camera ;

a portable information terminal;

a lens for said camera;

a shutter button for said camera; and

a terminal operation button for operating said portable information terminal,

wherein:

said terminal operation button comprises a two-step pressing type button; and

said terminal operation button acts as an alternate shutter button when said
portable information terminal is operated in a photographing mode.

26. (New) The apparatus according to claim 25, further comprising:

a viewfinder for said camera having an optical axis oriented parallel to an optical axis of said lens of said camera;

a housing for said camera and said viewfinder; and

a pair of flat cases which pivots through a hinge,

wherein:

at least one of said pair of flat cases is equipped with a display unit for displaying information from at least one of (1) transmission channels and (2) images captured by said camera; and

said hinge is attached to said housing.

27. (New) The apparatus according to claim 25, wherein said terminal operation button comprises a scroll button for scrolling a display unit for said portable information terminal.

28. (New) The apparatus according to claim 26, wherein:

said terminal operation button is positioned on a surface equipped with said display unit; and

said shutter button is positioned on another surface perpendicular to said surface equipped with said display unit.

29. (New) An apparatus comprising:

a camera ;

a portable information terminal;

a lens for said camera;

a housing for said camera; and

a pair of flat cases which pivots through a hinge,

wherein:

a first flat case of said pair of flat cases and a second flat case of said pair of flat cases are each equipped with a display unit, each display unit displaying information from both transmission channels and images taken in by said camera;

said hinge is attached to said housing; and

an optical axis of said lens of said camera is perpendicular to an axis of said hinge.

30. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein:

said pair of flat cases are in a position in which the display unit of the first flat case and the display unit of the second flat case face opposite directions, each exposed for viewing; and

one of said display units is disposed opposite a subject of an image being captured by said camera and displays said image.

17. (New) An apparatus according to claim 29, wherein said pair of flat cases are in an opened position in which the display unit of said first flat case and the display unit of said second flat case face a same direction.

32. (New) An apparatus comprising:

a camera; and

two display units, both of which are used for viewing images captured by said camera.

33. (New) The apparatus according to claim 32, wherein one of said two display

units is disposed opposite a subject of an image being captured by said camera.

34. (New) An apparatus which comprises:

a camera;

a portable information terminal;

a shutter button for said camera;

a viewfinder for said camera having an optical axis oriented parallel to that an optical axis of said lens of said camera;

a housing for said camera and said viewfinder; and

a pair of flat cases which pivots through a hinge,

wherein:

at least one of said cases is equipped with a display unit for displaying information from transmission channels or images captured by said camera; and

when said pair of flat cases are in a closed position, said viewfinder is positioned at an upper corner of the information terminal, while said shutter button is positioned at the another upper corner.

35. (New) An apparatus comprising:

a camera;

a portable information terminal;

a lens for said camera;

a shutter button for said camera;

a terminal operation button for operating said portable information terminal,

a viewfinder for said camera having an optical axis oriented parallel to an optical axis of said lens of said camera;

a housing for said camera and said viewfinder; and
a pair of flat cases which pivots through a hinge,
wherein:
said terminal operation button functions as an additional shutter button;
at least one of said pair of flat cases is equipped with a display unit for
displaying information from at least one of (1) transmission channels and (2) images captured
by said camera; and
said hinge is attached to said housing.

36. (New) The apparatus according to claim 35,
wherein:
said terminal operation button is positioned on a surface equipped with said
display unit; and
said shutter button is positioned on another surface perpendicular to said
surface equipped with said display unit.

37. (New) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the display unit in each of
said pair of flat cases displays information from both transmission channels and images
captured by said camera.

38. (New) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein:
a first step of pressing said terminal operation button sets said camera in a
photographing preparation stage; and
a second step of further pressing said terminal operation button releases a
shutter of said camera.

39. (New) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said scroll button has a screen scroll operation in which said scroll button is pressed in a tilting movement.

40. (New) The apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising a viewfinder for said camera having an optical axis oriented parallel to an optical axis of said lens of said camera, said lens and said viewfinder secured to said hinge and disposed along an axis of said hinge.

41. (New) The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said pair of flat cases are in a closed position in which the display unit of said first flat case and the display unit of said second flat case face opposite one another, with neither display unit exposed for viewing.

42. (New) The apparatus according to claim 33, wherein said one of said two display units disposed opposite said subject of said image being captured by said camera and the other of said two display units both display said image.